

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-03 TRSE-00 EB-03 OMB-01
SAJ-01 ACDA-10 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01
PRS-01 SP-02 INRE-00 USIE-00 H-01 CU-02 DLOS-02 SAL-01
SSO-00 /061 W
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O R 161220Z FEB 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1752
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6815
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USCINCEUR
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 4 USNATO 0877

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJECT: PERMREPS LUNCHEON, FEBRUARY 15, 1977

SUMMARY: AT THEIR REGULAR LUNCHEON ON FEBRUARY 15, NATO
PERREPS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

A. NAC CONSULTATIONS

2. NORWEGIAN-SOVIET RELATIONS

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3. UK DEFENSE BUDGET SAVINGS IN 1977/78

4. ECONAD STUDIES ON SOVIET MARITIME DEVELOPMENTS

5. ITALY OFFERS TO HOST NPG MINISTERIAL

6. ITALIAN AIR FORCE BILL

7. PARTICIPATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AT
BELGRADE CONFERENCE

8. DANISH PROPOSALS ON ARMS CONTROL

9. NATO AEW

10. MALTA

11. AID TO PORTUGAL

12. PROPOSED UK LIGHTNING FIGHTER AIRCRAFT VISIT
TO USSR.

END SUMMARY.

1. NAC CONSULTATIONS. THE AMBASSADOR SAW SYG LUNS IN
THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 15 TO BRIEF HIM ON THE US
VIEWS ON THE DATES WHICH LUNS HAD PROPOSED FOR THE
NAC CONSULTATIONS ON EASTERN EUROPE, CSCE, AND LOS (STATE 33544).
AT THE PERMREPS LUNCH, THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF
POSSIBLE DATES FOR THE EASTERN EUROPEAN CONSULTATION.
DE LA FERRIERE (FRANCE) SAID THAT HE WAS WHOLLY
IN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEED FOR CONSULTATION
ON EASTERN EUROPE. RE THE DATES FOR THE CSCE
CONSULTATION, LUNS SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION OF DATES
IN THE APRIL 10-20 PERIOD. HOWEVER, HARTOGH
(NETHERLANDS) WONDERED IF A BETTER DATE WOULD NOT BE
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BETWEEN THE JUNE AND SEPTEMBER BELGRADE MEETINGS.
NONE OF THE OTHER PERMREPS OBJECTED TO
HARTOGH'S REMARK, AND SOME SEEMED TO AGREE
WITH IT. RE THE DATES FOR THE LOS CONSULTATION,
HARDY (CANADA) WAS DOUBTFUL ON THE NEED TO MEET ON
LOS IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND OTHER PERMREPS
OBSERVED THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SEE WHERE LOS WAS
GOING NOW, AND THAT THERE WAS NO GREAT PRESSURE FOR
AN EARLY CONSULTATION.

COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE US TO PROPOSE
SPECIFIC DATES FOR THE EASTERN EUROPEAN AND LOS CONSULTATIONS
IN ORDER TO

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-03 EB-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01
SAJ-01 ACDA-10 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01
PRS-01 SP-02 INRE-00 USIE-00 H-01 CU-02 DLOS-02 SAL-01
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1753
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6816
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USCINCEUR
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

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LIMDIS

FIRM UP ALLIED AGREEMENT TO THESE TWO CONSULTATIONS.
WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE APRIL 10-20 PERIOD
FOR THE CSCE CONSULTATION. ACTION REQUESTED: WHEN
AVAILABLE, SPECIFIC DATES FOR THE EASTERN EUROPEAN
AND LOS CONSULTATIONS FOR US TO SUGGEST TO THE
ALLIES. END COMMENT.

HARTOGH ASKED THE AMBASSADOR IF HE HAD THE
EXACT DATES FOR THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO MOSCOW, AND
THE AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT HE WAS ONLY AWARE OF THE
MARCH 28 DATE WHICH WAS IN THE PUBLIC PRESS. THE
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AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE COULD ASSURE THE PERMREPS THAT
THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PLEDGE ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT
REGARDING CONSULTATIONS WILL OF COURSE BE HONORED
(STATE 32903). THIS COMMENT WAS RECEIVED BY THE
PERMREPS WITH SATISFACTION. ON THE MARGIN OF THE LUNCH,
BUSCH (NORWAY) ASKED THE AMBASSADOR IF THE SECRETARY
MIGHT CONSULT IN THE NAC BEFORE OR AFTER THE MOSCOW
VISIT. THE AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT GIVE
A SPECIFIC ANSWER AT THIS TIME, ONLY THAT THE US IS
VERY MINDFUL OF THE NEED FOR CONSULTATIONS. ALSO ON
THE MARGIN OF THE LUNCH, KILLICK (UK) TOLD THE
AMBASSADOR THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN IN LONDON
THAT THE SECRETARY CONSULT BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER THE
MOSCOW TRIP. KILLICK ASKED ABOUT RUMORS THAT THE
US HAD DECIDED TO CHANGE ITS POSITION
ON MBFR, AND THE AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE
ANY DECISIONS HAD BEEN MADE. OTHER PERMREPS ALSO PRIVATELY
NOTED TO THE AMBASSADOR THE IMPORTANCE OF NAC
CONSULTATIONS ON THE SECRETARY'S MOSCOW VISIT.

SYG LUNS DID NOT RAISE AT THIS LUNCH THE QUESTION OF A BRIEFING OF THE COUNCIL BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON OR A DEPUTY REGARDING THE SECRETARY'S MIDDLE-EAST TRIP (LUNS HAD SAID HE WOULD RAISE THE QUESTION, PER USNATO 747). BUSCH, IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR ON THE MARGIN OF THE LUNCH, EXPRESSED THE HOPE FOR SUCH A BRIEFING WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD AFTER THE MIDDLE-EAST TRIP. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE THE US UP TO TWO WEEKS AFTER THE TRIP TO ASSESS THE RESULTS, PER STATE 30064.

COMMENT: WE SHALL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH SYG LUNS AND HIS OFFICE TO ARRANGE THIS CONSULTATION. IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR US TO HAVE A SUGGESTED DATE FOR THE CONSULTATION WHEN AVAILABLE.

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2. NORWEGIAN-SOVIET RELATIONS. BUSCH REPORTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD ASKED THE NORWEGIAN COMMERCIAL ATTACHE IN MOSCOW TO LEAVE. BUSCH REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS THAT GROMYKO INTENDED TO POSTPONE HIS SCHEDULED VISIT TO NORWAY UNTIL AFTER THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN THE FALL, AND THAT THE SOVIETS PLAN TO SUSPEND THE BARENTS SEA NEGOTIATION. BUSCH SAID THAT HE HAD NO OFFICIAL INFORMATION TO CONFIRM THESE REPORTS. HE WILL INFORM THE PERMREPS IF ANYTHING DEVELOPS.

3. UK DEFENSE BUDGET SAVINGS IN 1977/78. KILLICK SAID THAT HIS FEBRUARY 14 LETTER TO THE SYG ON REDUCTIONS IN THE UK DEFENSE BUDGET (USNATO 866) SHOULD BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE. THE UK WILL PUBLISH ITS DEFENSE WHITE PAPER ON FEBRUARY 28 BUT SOME OF THE MATERIAL IN THE LETTER TO THE SYG WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED.

4. ECONAD STUDIES ON SOVIET MARITIME DEVELOPMENTS. KILLICK SUGGESTED THAT THE VARIOUS ECONAD STUDIES UNDERWAY ON SOVIET MARITIME DEVELOPMENTS (USNATO 236) BE PUT TOGETHER INTO ONE PAPER, IN SUCH A WAY AS TO BE EASILY READABLE FOR THE MINISTERIAL.

5. ITALY OFFERS TO HOST NPG MINISTERIAL. CATALANO (ITALY) SAID THAT ITALY OFFERS TO HOST THE NPG MINISTERIAL THIS FALL, EITHER AT BARI OR BRINDISI. (COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST OFFICIAL WORD WE HAVE

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PRS-01 SP-02 INRE-00 USIE-00 H-01 CU-02 DLOS-02 SAL-01

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O R 161220Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1754

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6817

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USCINCEUR

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

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LIMDIS

HAD OF ITALIAN OFFER TO HOST THE NPG MINISTERIAL. FOR
BACKGROUND, SEE ROME 2203 AND USNATO 745. END COMMENT)

6. ITALIAN AIR FORCE BILL. CATALANO ANNOUNCED
THAT THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE BILL HAD FINALLY PASSED.
HE SAID THAT IT AMOUNTED TO THE EQUIVALENT OF ONE
BILLION FOUR HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE ITALIAN
AIR FORCE.

7. PARTICIPATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AT BEGRADE
CONFERENCE. THE PERMREPS RETURNED TO THE QUESTION
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RAISED BY TINE AT THE FEBRUARY 1 PERMREPS LUNCH
REGARDING PARTICIPATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS IN
DELEGATIONS AT THE BELGRADE CSCE CONFERENCE. KILLICK,
PAULS (FRG) AND CATALANO SAID THAT THEIR COUNTRIES WOULD NOT REPEAT
NOT SEND PARLIAMENTARIANS. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE, PER
PARA 3, USNATO 749.)

8. DANISH PROPOSALS ON ARMS CONTROL. DE LA FERRIERE
RAISED THE MEMORANDUM CIRCULATED BY LUNS ON
POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP TO PERMREPS DISCUSSION OF THE
DANISH PROPOSALS ON ARMS CONTROL (USNATO 821).
HE REQUESTED AN INTERPRETATION BY LUNS OF POINTS

3 AND 4 IN THE MEMORANDUM, PARTICULARLY THAT THERE WAS "BROAD SUPPORT" AT THE PRIVATE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10 FOR THE PROPOSAL THAT EXPLORATORY TALKS BE HELD TO EXAMINE POSSIBILITIES WHICH MIGHT EXIST FOR WESTERN PROPOSALS IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT. LUNS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS ON DE LA FERRIERE'S MIND REGARDING "BROAD SUPPORT". DE LA FERRIERE SAID BROAD SUPPORT DID NOT MEAN UNANIMITY. LUNS SAID HE AGREED, AND WOULD AMEND THE MEMORANDUM, IF THAT WERE DESIRED, TO SAY THAT THE FRENCH DELEGATION HAD RESERVATIONS. DE LA FERRIERE SAID HE WOULD NOT REQUEST THAT, BUT ASKED IF THE MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED AGAIN AT ANOTHER MEETING. LUNS REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY.

9. NATO AEW. LUNS SAID THAT NO APPROXIMATE DATE COULD BE SET FOR THE MEETING OF FINANCIAL EXPERTS. HARTOGH SAID THAT HIS MINISTER COULD ATTEND A MINISTERS MEETING ON MARCH 21, 25, 26, OR 28, AND HE PROPOSED MARCH 21 FOR THAT MEETING. KILLICK URGED THAT SUCH A MEETING BE HELD, BECAUSE THE UK WAS UNDER STRONG TIME-TABLE PRESSURE WITH RESPECT TO NIMROD. PAULS SAID THAT IF THERE IS A MINISTERIAL MEETING, IT MUST PRODUCE RESULTS, OR IT WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE
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PROJECT. KILLICK SAID THAT HE WANTED THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A MINISTERIAL MEETING KEPT OPEN. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY BUSCH, KILLICK REPLIED THAT THE REFERENCE TO AEW IN HIS LETTER TO LUNS ON UK DEFENSE BUDGET SAVINGS (USNATO 866) SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS NEGATIVE ON AEW.

HARDY SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE NEED FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON AEW, AND HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO SUCH DISCUSSIONS, BUT IN GOOD TIME THE MATTER SHOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE ALL THE ALLIES. KILLICK SAID HE HOPED THE US AND FRG COULD ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT ON COST SHARING. (COMMENT: HIS IMPLICATION WAS THAT THIS WAS THE MAIN OBSTACLE. END COMMENT)

10. MALTA. LUNS RAISED THE SUBJECT OF MALTA. HE SAID THAT IN THE PAST, THE ALLIANCE HAS BEEN UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED REGARDING MALTA, AND HE ASKED IF THE ALLIANCE SHOULD NOT NOW CONSIDER THE PROBLEM. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT A FURTHER MEETING AT NATO DOES NOT APPEAR NECESSARY AT THIS TIME, GIVEN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS PRESENTLY UNDERWAY WITH MINTOFF, AND THE ATTENTION APPARENTLY BEING GIVEN MALTA IN THE EC CONTEXT. DE LA FERRIERE SUPPORTED THE AMBASSADOR, AND THE MATTER WAS DROPPED.

11. AID TO PORTUGAL. LUNS REFERRED TO

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O R 161220Z FEB 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1755
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6818
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USCINCEUR
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

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LIMDIS

THE JANUARY 12 DISCUSSIONS IN THE AD HOC GROUP ON
MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL AND TURKEY. HE
APPEALED TO THE PERMREPS TO INFORM THEIR
GOVERNMENTS OF THE NEED FOR AID TO PORTUGAL:
THE PORTUGUESE NEEDED MODERN WEAPONS SYSTEMS. PAULS
SUPPORTED LUNS AND COMMENTED ON FRG AID TO
PORTUGAL. LUNS HOPED FOR A WIDE RESPONSE TO ASSIST
OUR PORTUGUESE ALLY. DE FREITAS-CRUZ (PORTUGAL)
SAID HE WAS HEARTENED BY LUNS' APPEAL. HE NOTED
THAT THE US CONGRESS MIGHT BE HESITANT REGARDING AID
TO PORTUGAL IF THE OTHER ALLIES SEEMED TO BE HOLDING
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BACK. THE AMBASSADOR SAID AID TO PORTUGAL WAS
INDEED A MATTER OF CONCERN FOR ALL. HE SAID
THAT THE US EXPECTED THE ALLIES TO ACT IN RESPONSE TO
VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S STATEMENT IN THE COUNCIL.
SVART (DENMARK) SAID THAT ALLIES SHOULD DO SO "WITHIN
THEIR MEANS."

12. PROPOSED UK LIGHTNING FIGHTER AIRCRAFT VISIT TO
USSR. KILLICK SAID THAT THE IDEA OF THE UK LIGHTNING
FIGHTER AIRCRAFT VISIT TO THE USSR HAD BEEN DROPPED.
(COMMENT: THIS DECISION WAS FORESEEN IN LONDON 907.
END COMMENT)STRAUSZ-HUPE

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